

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 8th March 1890.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
1	"Ahammadi"	Tangail, Mymensingh	450	
2	"Ave Maria"	Calcutta	.....
3	"Divakar"	Ditto	.....
4	"Gaura Duta"	Maldah	.....
5	"Kasipore Nibasi"	Kasipore, Burrisal	30	
6	"Purva Bangabasi"	Noakholly	.....
7	"Purva Darpan"	Chittagong	700	
8	"Uttara Banga Hitaishi"	Mahiganj, Rungpore	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
9	"Arya Darpan"	Calcutta	102	3rd March 1890.
10	"Bangabasi"	Ditto	20,000	1st ditto.
11	"Bangala Exchange Gazette"	Calcutta	.....	27th and 28th February and 2nd to 4th March 1890.
12	"Burdwan Sanjibani"	Burdwan	302	25th February 1890.
13	"Chandra Vilash"	Berhampore	250	
14	"Charuvarta"	Sherepore, Mymensingh	500	24th ditto.
15	"Chattal Gazette"	Chittagong	800	
16	"Dacca Prakash"	Dacca	1,200	2nd March 1890.
17	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly	885	28th February 1890.
18	"Faridpur Hitaishini"	Faridpur	.....
19	"Garib"	Dacca	3,000	
20	"Grambasi"	Uluberia	800	1st March 1890.
21	"Gaurab"	Ditto	.....
22	"Guru Charana"	Calcutta	.....
23	"Hindu Ranjika"	Beauleah, Rajshahye	300	
24	"Jagatbasi"	Calcutta	750	
25	"Murshidabad Patrika"	Berhampore	508	
26	"Murshidabad Pratinidhi"	Ditto	350	
27	"Navavibhakar Sadharani"	Calcutta	600	3rd ditto.
28	"Pratikar"	Berhampore	600	28th February 1890.
29	"Rungpore Dik Prakash"	Kakinia, Rungpore	205	
30	"Sahachar"	Calcutta	500	26th ditto.
31	"Samaya"	Ditto	3,806	28th ditto.
32	"Sanjivani"	Ditto	4,000	1st March 1890.
33	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong	800	
34	"Sakti"	Dacca	.....	25th February 1890.
35	"Santi"	Calcutta	3,722	
36	"Sarawat Patra"	Dacca	300	
37	"Som Prakash"	Calcutta	1,000	3rd March 1890.
38	"Srimanta Saudagar"	Ditto	.....
39	"Sudhakar"	Ditto	.....
40	"Sulabha Samachar o Kusadaha"	Ditto	800	28th February 1890.
41	"Sulabh Samvad"	Ditto	.....	28th ditto.
42	"Surabhi o Patika"	Chandernagore	700	1st March 1890.
				27th February 1890.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
<i>Daily.</i>				
43	"Dainik o Samáchár Chandriká" ...	Calcutta	1,500	2nd to 4th and 5th March 1890.
44	"Samvád Prabhákar" ...	Ditto	800	28th February, 1st and 3rd to 5th March 1890.
45	"Samvád Purnachandrodaya" ...	Ditto	300	28th February, 1st and 3rd to 5th March 1890.
46	"Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká" ...	Ditto	500	March 1890.
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
47	"Dacca Gazette" ...	Dacca	.....	3rd March 1890.
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
48	"Darjeeling Mission ke Másik Samachár Patrika." ...	Darjeeling	20	
49	"Kshatriya Pratiká" ...	Patna	300	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
50	"Aryávarta" ...	Calcutta	1,500	1st ditto.
51	"Behar Bandhu" ...	Bankipore	.....
52	"Bhárat Mitra" ...	Calcutta	1,653	27th February 1890.
53	"Sár Sudhánidhi" ...	Ditto	500	
54	"Uchit Baktá" ...	Ditto	4,500	
55	"Hindi Samáchár" ...	Bhagulpore	1,000	
PERSIAN.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
56	"Jám-Jahán-numá" ...	Calcutta	250	28th ditto.
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
57	"Aftal Alum Arrah" ...	Arrah	300	
58	"Akhbar Tusdiq-i-Hind" ...	Calcutta	.....
59	"Anis" ...	Patna	.....
60	"Gauhur" ...	Calcutta	196	28th ditto.
61	"Sharaf-ul-Akbar" ...	Behar	150	
62	"Al Punch" ...	Bankipore	.....
63	"Urdu Guide Darussaltanat" ...	Calcutta	340	28th ditto.
64	"Raisul-Akhbari-Moorshidabad" ...	Murshidabad	.....
URIA.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
65	"Asha" ...	Cuttack	.....
66	"Taraka and Subhavartá" ...	Ditto	.....
67	"Pradíp" ...	Ditto	.....
68	"Samyabadi" ...	Ditto	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
69	"Dipaka" ...	Cuttack	.....	15th ditto.
70	"Utkal Dípiká" ...	Ditto	444	15th ditto.
71	"Samvad Váhika" ...	Balasore	205	13th ditto.
72	"Urya and Navasamvád" ...	Ditto	600	13th ditto.
PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.				
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
73	"Silchar" ...	Silchar	500	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
74	"Paridarshak" ...	Sylhet	450	24th ditto.

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE *Sahachar*, of the 26th February, hopes that Government will act with patience and forbearance in delimiting the boundary between Burma and Siam. Already the officer who is entrusted with the duty of delimitation on behalf of Government is treating Siam as a conquered country. It is of course not a difficult task for Government to conquer and annex a State like Siam. But is it not for its advantage to have a buffer State like Siam on the eastern boundary of its Empire? Government will be most ill-advised to allow its Empire to outgrow its present limits.

SACHACHAR,
Feb. 26th, 1890.

2. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 2nd March, has grave doubts as to the correctness of the statement made by the *Rangoon Gazette* that the officials of the Siam State are secretly thwarting the work of delimiting the boundary between Burma and Siam, and that they are therefore anxious to prevent a meeting of the Siamese and English ameens. The writer cannot believe that the Siamese can intend quarrelling with the English.

The *Rangoon Gazette* on the Siam boundary question.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Mar. 2nd, 1890.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

3. The *Surabhi-o-Pataká*, of the 27th February, says that the practice of entrusting judicial powers to the Magistracy often leads to failure of justice and facilitates the commission of oppression by the police. As head of the Police, the Magistrate apprehends persons suspected of crime, and as judge he tries the very persons who have been so apprehended. The mischief arising from such a system is illustrated by the following case:—

SURABHI-O-PATAKA.
Feb. 27th, 1890

On the 1st of May last, a prostitute, named Champa, was murdered in her house near the police station at the head-quarters of the Contai subdivision in the district of Midnapore. The police got no scent of the matter until the dead body of the murdered woman was in a state of decomposition. Then they challaned one Kailas and two others for the murder. These men were brought before the Deputy Magistrate, but as no case could be made out against them they were not placed under trial. But the Deputy Magistrate, nevertheless, sent them to *hajut*. In doing so the Deputy Magistrate probably thought that, as head of the police, he was anyhow bound to keep that body in countenance. The prisoners were in the meantime made by the police to confess their crime, and were again brought before the Deputy Magistrate; and this time they were committed to the Sessions. But the Sessions Judge and the jury could not believe the statement of the police, and so the prisoners were let off. It was also proved in the course of the trial that the police had deliberately made false entries in the *khátá* of one Udaya Dhar, whom they had tutored to say that he had purchased from the prisoners certain ornaments, which the police said had belonged to the unfortunate woman. This shows how the police goes about manufacturing evidence to secure conviction. The case also illustrates how Magistrates feel inclined to identify themselves with the police. In the present case, when the prisoners were brought up for the first time before the Deputy Magistrate, and no case could be made out against them, that officer did not even write down their depositions, lest the depositions should go against the police. The sooner, therefore, this mischievous system of entrusting double functions to Magistrates is abolished the better.

PRATIKAR,
Feb. 28th, 1890.

4. Referring to the deputation of Colonel Ramsay on the chowkidari question, the *Pratikár*, of the 28th February, expresses itself glad that Government is interesting itself in this important matter. The manner of working the panchayet system has made it very unpopular. And the inefficiency displayed by chowkidars in protecting people's life and property has become a crying evil. But the way in which Government proposes to alter the system will not be very effective. At present chowkidars are more under the control of the police than under that of the panchayet. Chowkidars cannot be wholly set free from police control, but the police should not employ them in other than their legitimate duties. Another point to which Government should attend is freeing the panchayets from the control of the police if the panchayet is to be made a popular institution.

It is probable that the evils incident to the present constitution of the panchayets may disappear when the proposed village unions come into existence; but so long as they are not created Government may act on the following plan. It may appoint a collector on a small salary for two or three villages, and make him partly subordinate to the police and partly subordinate to the Local Board, in order to prevent his being made a tool of by the former. This man should not be a man of any one of those villages whose chowkidari tax he is appointed to collect. The panchayets may be asked to assist this collector. The chowkidari system, worked on this plan, will be both popular and effective.

DAINIK-O SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Mar. 3rd, 1890.

5. A correspondent of the *Dainik-o-Samachár Chandriká*, of the 3rd March, says that theft has of late become rife in the Ranigunge sub-division, and that several cases have occurred at the Searsole Rajbari. The people fear to give notice of theft to the police.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
Mar. 3rd, 1890.

6. The *Navavibhakar Sadharani*, of the 3rd March, says that theft and dacoity are rife at Pandua and the adjoining places. The men who committed dacoities at Malpara and Bhonpur have not been traced. Burglaries are of frequent occurrence, and the burglars are untraced. The local police is said to have been reinforced by eight constables from Hughli, but to no purpose. It is said that the head-constable of the Hughli police too will soon come to the place. The burglaries have made even the Sub-Inspector of the Hughli police uneasy. If the thieves and dacoits are not traced, everybody's suspicion will fall upon the police itself.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Feb. 25th, 1890.

7. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 25th February, says that the trial of O'Hara and the sentence of death passed upon him by Mr. Justice Norris have given satisfaction to the public. O'Hara is guilty of murder of a most brutal nature, and there is nothing which can be urged in his favour. But though he behaved like a brute, still he is a man, and the news that a man's life will be taken is sufficient to move every human heart to pity. Moreover, capital punishment is unfit to be retained in civilised society, its infliction leaving the criminal no opportunity to expiate for his sin. As the law now stands, the sentence passed upon O'Hara is no doubt a just one. But that law ought to be changed.

SAHACHAR,
Feb. 26th, 1890.

Mr. Beveridge, Additional Judge,
24-Pergunnahs.

8. The *Sahachar*, of the 26th February, has the following in regard to Mr. Beveridge, Additional Judge of the 24-Pergunnahs:—

Mr. Beveridge is an able and impartial officer. He is a friend of India, and his private life is perfectly spotless. But as a Judge he has not been able to secure the confidence of the people. He ordinarily hears

civil and criminal appeals, and his decisions in most of those appeals can be predicted. In money suits he does not, as a rule, interfere with the decisions of the lower courts, so that in those cases the appellant's chance of winning is almost *nil*. Mr. Beveridge seems to think that in such suits the decision of one court is sufficient. Again, in cases involving questions of right, if the plaintiff happens to be the appellant, the respondent's pleader has to act on the supposition, which often proves correct, that the judgment of the lower court will be upset. As a matter of fact, 55 per cent. of these appeals are decided in favour of the appellant, the Additional Judge proceeding on the supposition that nobody comes to court as a plaintiff who has not some real wrong to be redressed, and that even if the lower court goes against him, the appellate court ought to come to his help. And such help he gets in the fullest measure from the Additional Judge of the 24-Pergunnahs. And no wonder that persons fond of litigation should often take advantage of this peculiarity in the Additional Judge's disposition and try to have their cases transferred to his court.

Again, in criminal appeals, where it is often desirable, in the interests of the parties concerned, that the decisions of the lower courts should be set aside, the Additional Judge almost always upholds the decisions of the Magistrates.

It will be seen from the above that Mr. Beveridge's judicial conduct is guided by certain principles laid down or formulated by himself. And though the writer has respect for Mr. Beveridge as a man of principle, still he cannot help thinking that as his principles are incorrect, they have the effect of vitiating his decisions and thereby defeating the ends of justice. In short, under him, the right of appeal has become a mockery. It is hoped that Mr. Beveridge will take note of this and alter his cast iron rule of conduct.

Trial of Duncan King and O'Hara
in the High Court.

9. The same paper has the following
on the trial of Duncan King and O'Hara in the
High Court:—

SAHACHAR,
Feb. 26th, 1890.

O'Hara's trial has made it clear that whatever may be the case in other countries, within the British Empire all men are equal in the eye of the law which cannot be broken with impunity. The native community should conclude from this trial that the European community heartily hates all wrongdoing by whomsoever committed. In the course of the trial, the Judge enquired of the widow of the murdered man whether she had any means of subsistence, and was told in reply that she had none. Thereupon the jury liberally subscribed for her support. This incident ought to remove the belief still entertained by some that Europeans guilty of oppressing natives find sympathy and support from their countrymen. There are bad men in every community, but the European community, as a rule, sympathise with the oppressed and the downtrodden.

In the opinion of the native community, Duncan King has got off with a very light sentence. But considering the fact that he is a gentleman who did a rash act in a state of intoxication, was filled with remorse and shame when he contemplated in his sober moments the nature of the act he had done, and attempted to do some reparation to the deceased's family for the injury done to them by him, the sentence passed upon him cannot be considered to have been a very light one.

10. The *Sanjivani*, of the 1st March, says that the sentence passed
by Mr. Justice Norris on O'Hara has given

SANJIVANI,
Mar. 1st, 1890.

The capital punishment passed on
O'Hara.

satisfaction to all, except some Europeans, who are wishing in the newspapers to say that any punishment short of death would have satisfied the ends of justice. But if any crime deserves to be punished with death, it is, no doubt, the crime committed in this case of brutally murdering a man.

NAVABHAKAR
SADHARANI,
Mar. 3rd, 1890.

11. A correspondent, writing to the *Navabihakar Sadharani*, of the 3rd March, says that the Munsif of Sibgunge has submitted a report recommending the removal of the munsifi. But Mr. Badcock, the District Judge of Rajshahye, has reported that he himself will submit a report after making enquiries in person at Maldah. The late Judge, Mr. Pargiter, entrusted the Munsif with the charge of making enquiries into and reporting on the subject. It is not easy to see how Mr. Badcock will be able to get a better knowledge of local circumstances than the Munsif beyond realising that a munsifi at Nawabgunge, a place on the way from Rajshahye to Maldah, can be easily inspected by the District Judge.

Two Englishmen are now pulling Mr. Badcock in two different directions. Mr. Walton, of the Sardaha Factory, is for keeping the munsifi at Nawabgunge, and Mr. Atkinson, of the Kasiachak Factory, is for its removal. It remains to be seen which of them prevails with the Judge.

(d)—Education.

SAKTI,
Feb. 25th, 1890.

12. Referring to an article which appeared in the *Dacca Prakash* of the 23rd February (see Report on Native Papers for the week ending the 1st March, paragraph 22), making a covert attack on Baboo Dina Nath Sen, Inspector of Schools, Dacca Circle, the *Sakti*, of the 25th February, says that this dastardly attack must have been made by some members of that band of "Pandemonium," who have been lately deprived of their exclusive right of publishing school books and printing question papers in the Dacca Circle. The attack will do little harm to Baboo Dina Nath: it only shows the stuff the slanderers are made of. It has been insinuated that one of the text-books, the "Sukhabodh," though a worthless book, has been selected simply because its author, Baboo Haridas Sen, is a relative of Baboo Dina Nath Sen. Is it because both Dina Nath and Haridas are Sen that the writer in the *Dacca Prakash* has established kinship between them? So far as the writer is aware, Baboo Haridas, far from being a favourite of Baboo Dina Nath, used to receive very harsh treatment at the latter's hand for the bad condition of his school when he was in the education service at Dacca. And the school at Commillah, where Baboo Haridas is now employed as a teacher, has not yet been recognised by the Inspector as an Entrance school. So much for their kinship. As for Baboo Haridas' book, certainly none but the writer in the *Dacca Prakash* can have the audacity to call in question the fitness of a text-book which, having been selected by the Central Text-book Committee, and approved by the Director of Public Instruction, has been accepted and fixed as a text-book by the Inspector of Schools.

SAHACHAR,
Feb. 26th, 1890.

13. The *Sahachar*, of the 26th February, says that the Calcutta University must be a very slowly moving body. The time for holding this year's examinations has come, and yet the Committee appointed to report on last year's failures have not yet submitted their report. Surely a Committee which cannot get through a simple business of this kind within one year's time must require much longer time to perform duties of an arduous nature. Some of the examiners, again, who conducted the last year's examinations, and may be therefore responsible for the large failures, are in the Committee! This only shows the President of the Faculty of Arts and the Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University to be men of extraordinary wisdom.

The very fact that the answer papers of the examiners have had to be revised in many cases shews that the miserable results of the last year's examinations were due to the examiners. Mistakes in adding up

marks account for the miserable result of the Utterpara Collegiate School last year. Has Sir Alfred Croft's attention been done to the matter? Has the University taken steps to prevent similar mistakes in future? Again, the University is in the habit of appointing as examiners men who are absolutely ignorant of English. Will this objectionable practice never cease? The Syndicate which made so much noise over an ordinary act of carelessness on the part of an examiner, now dead, never gives serious attention to the matter in question.

14. The *Surabhi-o-Patáká*, of the 27th February, refers to the proposal to create a post of Minister of Education and to appoint Sir Alfred Croft, Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, to it, and remarks as follows :—

The proposed post of Minister of Education.

SURABHI-O-PATAKA,
Feb. 27th, 1890.

As Sir Alfred is still fit for service, and as he has for a long time rendered right loyal service to the Civilians, there is apparently no other way of rewarding his services than by creating a new post for him. He has now become too great a personage to remain satisfied with the post of Director of Public Instruction. As the post of Press Commissioner was created with the sole object of promoting Sir Roper Lethbridge, so the post of Minister of Education will be created with the sole object of rewarding Sir Alfred Croft. As distinct provisions for the primary education of the natives of India exist in every district, and as high education cannot expect anything from Sir Alfred, it seems that the new post will not be created in the interest of the natives. The new post will, however, give an opportunity of bringing the European and Eurasian schools in India under a uniform system of rules and regulations.

15. The *Sulabh Samáchar-o-Kushdaha*, of the 28th February, says that owing to the inconsiderateness of the Educational authorities in appointing too many subjects for the lower examinations, boys of tender age hardly find time for taking their meals, much less time for recreation. This is telling injuriously on the physical constitution of the rising generation. All professors of hygiene agree in saying that physical and mental exercises must be duly proportioned if students are to keep health. Those who are responsible for the selection of text-books think that their duty is discharged by appointing some difficult books for the boys, and do not care to enquire whether the books are suited to the capacities of those for whom they are selected, and whether they are calculated to form a solid foundation for an enduring superstructure of knowledge, wisdom, morality and religion.

Strain of study in the lower schools.

SULABH SAMACHAR-O-
KUSHDAHA,
Feb. 28th, 1890.

16. The *Sanjivani*, of the 1st March, says that of the papers set at the last Entrance Examination of the Calcutta University, the one on English literature was not bad, but it seems doubtful whether the paper on translation was set by a native or by a European gentleman. If it was set by a native gentleman, the University authorities should expunge for good from the list of examiners the name of one examiner, who has shown such a profound knowledge of his mother tongue. If it was set by a European, he should have been first taught the Bengali language, and then appointed to be an examiner. And if again the European gentleman who set this paper was no other than the author of the "Hints," then it is clear that the lashing he received from the Revd. Lal Behari De has failed to bring him round. If the author of the paper is a missionary gentleman, he would have done well not to have made such a display of his knowledge of Bengali. The examiner's knowledge of the Bengali language and his spellings are equally admirable.

Questions set at the last Entrance Examination.

SANJIVANI,
Mar. 1st, 1890.

The papers on mathematics and history and geography were faultless. But there was a fatal error in the paper on Sanskrit. A passage was given

in it in English, and the examinee was asked to translate it into English. The error was rectified on attention being called to it here in Calcutta; but what did the candidates in the mofussil do?

SANJIVANI,
Mar. 1st, 1890.

17. The same paper says that the number of candidates for the last Entrance Examination examined at the Krishnagore centre was 110, but only 103 copies of the question paper were found in the packet on the morning of the first day of the examination. The remaining seven copies were hastily written out, and so many errors crept in, which served to mislead those who got these copies, and on coming back from the examination they found that they had given wrong answers to several questions. Now who is to be responsible for this?

SANJIVANI.

18. The same paper says that it is rumoured that the questions on Sanskrit which are to be set at the ensuing F. A. and B. A. Examinations have oozed out through the fault of the examiners themselves. The rumour cannot be wholly without foundation. For rumours to the effect that questions in some subject or other had been given out to the students of their colleges by the professors who were examiners in those subjects were found correct in previous years on inspection of the question papers after the examinations. It is also sometimes heard that a professor, not content with giving his pupils the questions set in his own subject, procures the questions set in other subjects from his brother examiners, and lets his pupils know them with answers. And accusations of this kind have been brought against the professors of well-known colleges. Now, what is to be done if all this be true?

Government is anxious to teach morality to the boys, but it would be wiser to try to improve the morality of the teachers first. It is the Professors of the Government Colleges who are reported to be most guilty of the practice of giving publicity to questions. Cannot the University authorities invent some remedy for this evil?

DACCA PRAKASH,
Mar. 2nd, 1890.

19. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 2nd March, says that the Inspector of Schools, Dacca Circle, has recently introduced as text-books for the schools in his circle books written by himself, his brother and the clerks of his office in the face of the orders of Government published in the *Calcutta Gazette* for July 1889, directing all teachers and managers of schools to select for use in their schools only those books which have been included in the list of the Central Text-book Committee as approved by the Director of Public Instruction. And among the books taken in by the Inspector are some which are not to be found in the above list. The attention of the authorities is drawn to the matter.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR,
CHANDRIKA,
Mar. 4th, 1890.

20. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 4th March, strongly condemns the translation paper set on the first day of the last Entrance Examination. It is said that the paper has elicited a strong disapprobation from some of the members of the Senate, but they are doing nothing to express their displeasure. The writer is anxious to see how the matter is dealt with by the present Vice-Chancellor of the University. If the statement made by some people is correct that the paper in question was so framed in order to suit the convenience of a European examiner, then the reason for condemning those concerned in the matter becomes all the more strong. The passage given to the candidates to translate was no Bengali at all.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

21. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 25th February, says that the surplus of the Local Jubilee Fund, which was made over to the Burdwan Municipality to be spent by it on some object of public utility, still remains unused, and requests the Commissioners to spend the same for some useful purpose without delay.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Feb. 25th, 1890.

The Burdwan Municipality and the surplus of the Jubilee Fund.

22. The *Sahachar*, of the 26th February, has the following on Mr. Harry Lee's proposed appointment to the Chairmanship of the Calcutta Municipality:—

SAHACHAR,
Feb. 26th, 1890.

Mr. Harry Lee as Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality.

The post of Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality is evidently reserved for Civilians, and so a Civilian has been named as successor of Sir Henry Harrison. But up to this time no Civilian, except Mr. Souttar, has been a successful Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality. The present Chairman was successful for some time, but he has put his foot in the mire at the close of his career. Mr. Lee, his successor, is a Magistrate of mediocre abilities, without any experience of municipal affairs. Perhaps he is a second Augustus, last Emperor of Rome.

The time has come for allowing the Commissioners of the Calcutta Municipality to elect their own Chairman. There is no reason why what is done in Bombay should not be allowed to be done in Calcutta.

23. The *Sanjivani*, of the 1st March, will pass no opinion as to the fitness or otherwise of Mr. Lee to be the Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality, until opportunities have been given of judging him in his new capacity. But the writer will now make one suggestion, namely, that as Mr. Lee is an officer of only sixteen years' standing, and draws a salary of not more than Rs. 1,500, the Municipality should make a saving by granting him for the present a salary of Rs. 2,000 instead of Rs. 2,500.

SANJIVANI,
Mar. 1st, 1890.

Mr. Lee as Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality.

24. Referring to the *Hindu Patriot* newspaper's advocacy of the case of Baboo Jadulal Mullick in his quarrel with the Calcutta Municipality, the same paper asks for a comparison of the two following cases:—

SANJIVANI.

(1). The case of a man like Baboo Jadulal Mullick, a wealthy landlord of Calcutta, having his coaches, &c., seized in satisfaction of his dues to the municipality, which he refuses to pay.

(3) The case of a poor man eking out a hand-to-mouth existence with his family, having his few household utensils seized and sold in satisfaction of arrears of municipal rates, though he is really without means to pay them.

That cases like the latter are of daily occurrence in Calcutta is known to every newspaper editor. Are the Municipal authorities to be blamed then if they have not allowed any difference to be made between the rich and the poor in the sight of the law, and if they have not shown to the rich a favour which they do not extend to the poor?

25. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 2nd March, has the following on the Durbhunga temple case:—

DACCA PRAKASH,
Mar. 2nd, 1889.

The Durbhunga Temple case.

In this case the Vice-Chairman of the Durbhunga Municipality cannot be held guiltless on the ground that he acted under the orders of the Chairman. It is no plea for a forger to say that he forged at the instance of somebody else. The Chairman of a municipality derives his powers from the Commissioners, and his duty is simply to carry out their wish. By ordering the temple to be demolished in the teeth of the opposition of the Commissioners, the Chairman and the

Vice-Chairman of the Municipality clearly exceeded their powers and are therefore responsible for breaking the municipal law.

SOM PRAKASH,
Mar. 3rd, 1890.

26. The *Som Prakash*, of the 3rd March, disapproves of Government's selection of Mr. Lee for the post of Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality. The duties which Mr. Lee is now performing are entirely different from those which he will be shortly called upon to perform. The opinion expressed by the *Hindoo Patriot* newspaper in regard to Mr. Lee has raised considerable apprehension in the mind of the writer. Perhaps there is some secret reason why Mr. Lee of all men has been selected for the Chairmanship of the Calcutta Municipality.

27. A correspondent of the same paper says that recently the Commissioners of the Santipore Municipality prosecuted one Behari Lal Banerji, second teacher of the local English school, for fencing in a piece of land belonging to the municipality and causing obstruction to a drain. The prosecution has partially failed, but it has cost the municipality more than Rs. 150, while the price of the land for which it was instituted is only Rs. 10 or 12. Who is responsible for this waste of the ratepayers' money? If the object of the municipality was to acquire the land or the drain in question, that object would have been gained by serving a notice upon Behari Baboo under section 363 of the Municipal Act, paying Rs. 15 or Rs. 16 only as the price of the land or the drain, and the large sum spent in the fruitless litigation would have been saved.

SOM PRAKASH.

(f)—Questions affecting the land.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Feb. 25th, 1890.

28. A correspondent of the *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 25th February says that a large number of Road Cess notices has been recently issued by the Burdwan Collectorate to the people of the villages within its jurisdiction. As these notices omit to specify the properties for which road cess is demanded, and as the same name may belong to more than one person in a village, people often find it difficult to ascertain the real parties for whom the notices are intended.

PRATIKAR,
Feb. 28th, 1890.

29. The *Pratikar*, of the 28th February, says that great oppression is being practised in connection with the road cess. It was stated at the time of the imposition of this new tax on lakheraj estates that it would not be assessed on estates yielding an annual rent of less than Rs. 5. In practice, however, this rule is violated. For the assessors, upon their own notions, find no difficulty whatever in declaring the rent of a lakheraj estate to be greater than Rs. 5. And the costliness and uncertainty of an appeal from the determinations of the assessors deter people from seeking the protection of the law-courts.

Again, the interest on the road cess is something very strange. It is indeed a very nice dodge that the Government has devised for increasing its revenue. A ruler can impose taxes, but he has no right to levy interest thereon.

This road cess assumes its worst aspect in the case of an estate owned by several persons jointly. If one among them makes default in the payment of the cess, the law enables the officers to recover it from his co-parceners, and it is no easy matter for the latter to recover the same from the defaulter through the medium of the Civil Court. Besides, confusion often arises in the case of such estates through carelessness in crediting to the right co-parcener the cess which has been paid by him.

(g)—Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.

30. The *Bangabáti*, of the 1st March, says that there are no roads in village Sadki in Kumerkhali in the Nuddea district. Repeated representations have been made to the Local Board, but to no purpose.

No roads in village Sadki in Kumerkhali in the Nuddea district.

The authorities should attend to the matter.

31. The *Grāmvási*, of the 1st March, says that the people who use the road from Santragachi to Andul in the Howrah district are put to great inconvenience in the rainy season in consequence of

The road from Santragachi to Andul in the Howrah District.

the road not being pucca.

32. A correspondent of the *Som Prakásh*, of the 3rd March, complains of the miserable condition of the road from the Machhalandpur Railway station to Malangafulli and other villages in the 24-Pergunnahs.

The road from the Machhalandpur Railway station to Malangafulli and other villages in the 24-Pergunnahs.

other villages in the 24-Pergunnahs, and says that though the people of the above villages have been paying the road cess regularly, yet nothing has yet been done to improve the condition of the road. Baboo Trailokya Nath Sen Gupta, Deputy Magistrate of Basirhat, is asked to look to the matter.

BANGABATI
Mar. 1st, 1890.

GRAMVASI,
Mar. 1st, 1890.

SOM PRAKASH,
Mar. 3rd, 1890.

(h)—General.

33. The *Sahachar*, of the 26th February, refers to the indigo disputes at Magura, in the district of Jessore, and observes as follows:—

Government and the indigo affair in Jessore.

The indigo-planters of Magura are carrying matters with a high hand. Their men have brought innumerable criminal suits against the friends of the ryots. Mr. Lusson has been entrusted with the disposal of these suits. Certainly he is not punishing men without proof, but he has done a very improper thing by permitting the issue of warrants against such men as Moyaddin Hoshim Molla and Baboo Barada Kanta Sarkar. The Magistrate, however, has discharged them with a warning. That warning probably means—"Take care, how you offend the indigo-planters."

The proposal to quarter an additional police force in the village of Magura is then referred to, and the following remarks are made:—

It is hoped that Sir Steuart Bayley will not quarter the police in the village. Quartering the police in the village will mean the infliction of a punishment on the villagers. Does not the Lieutenant-Governor know the Bengalis? Does His Honour believe that they will wilfully seek a quarrel with the indigo-planters?

The very fact that the ryots have made a stand against the planters shows that they have been grossly ill-treated by the latter. If the cultivation of indigo had been profitable to them, surely the ryots would not have refused to cultivate it. Englishmen think that as a very small number of them is governing India, the maintenance of their prestige requires that they should uphold the act of every individual Englishman in India. Similarly, when English Judges and Magistrates in India pass hard sentences upon native criminals, the object they have in view is to inspire fear in the minds of the people. But they are certainly mistaken who think that the British Empire in India is based on the bayonet of the British soldier and not on the loyalty of the people.

If Sir Steuart Bayley allows an additional police force to be quartered in the village, people will think that His Honour is on the side of the planters, and that as all legal means of inducing the ryots to sow indigo have failed, Government has thought fit to call in the assistance of the police in order to compel the ryots to sow indigo. But the times have

SAHACHAR,
Feb. 26th, 1890.

changed and the measure in question, if adopted, will exasperate the people and goad them into adopting measures in self-defence. The authorities should take care not to convert India into Ireland and will do well to stay the hands of Mr. Luson and the other officers concerned. Government should beware of dipping its hands into this affair.

BANGABASI,
Mar. 1st, 1890.

34. The *Bangabasi*, of the 1st March, complains that the village Sadki, in Kumarkhalli in the Nuddea district,

A postal grievance.

being at a distance of one and a half miles from the post-office at Kumarkhalli, letters are delivered there at intervals of three or four days, and that the grievance has been made known to the authorities several times without effect.

III.—LEGISLATIVE.

SAKTI,
Feb. 25th, 1890.

35. The *Sakti*, of the 25th February, says that Lord Cross's Indian Councils Bill has been drawn up very artfully.

Lord Cross's Indian Councils Bill.

It contains provisions for meeting every demand of the congress party in this country, but it is silent about the most important demand of theirs, the demand for the elective franchise in the selection of members for the Indian Councils. The Secretary of State and the Presidents of the Councils know full well that so long as they have the power of nominating members, so long they will be free to act as they like, notwithstanding the nominal privileges given to the members of asking questions and discussing the budgets. For by an adroit selection of members they will be able to get men who, partly from their inability to understand English and partly from obsequiousness to Government, will not dare to question any act of Government. So the new law will be nothing, so far as the people of India are concerned, whilst the Secretary of State will be able to give to himself the credit of introducing reforms in the Indian Councils of his own accord. A Secretary of State so clever, is, indeed, very rare.

SAHACHAR,
Feb. 26th, 1890.

36. The *Sahachar*, of the 26th February, has the following on Lord Cross's Indian Councils Bill:—

Lord Cross's Indian Councils Bill.

"Lord Dufferin recommended the reconstruction of the Indian Legislative Councils on a partially elective basis, but Lord Cross's Bill provides for their enlargement on the basis of nomination alone. No harm could have arisen from giving effect to Lord Dufferin's recommendation. For who shall say that men like Sir Frank Adams, Sir Alexander Wilson, Raja Madhava Rao, and Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee are not men fit to be elected as the people's representatives? However, the congressists should approve of the new Bill, which argues a desire on the part of the Ministers to make some concession to their demand for reformed Legislative Councils. Besides, the right of interpellation and the power of discussing the budget, which the new Bill provides for, are very important concessions and will go a great way towards putting down magisterial oppression and financial blundering. Great good will also result if, in nominating members for the Councils, care is taken to show deference to popular choice and to select really efficient men. It should be also borne in mind in this connection that all reforms are not obtained in a day and that reforms to be lasting in their character should come slowly and gradually."

SAMAYA
Feb. 28th, 1890.

37. The *Samaya*, of the 28th February, has the following on Lord Cross's Indian Councils Bill:—

Lord Cross's Indian Councils Bill.

"The new Bill provides for the right of interpellation and the discussion of the budget. But as resolutions or discussions on the financial statements or on the official answers to the interpellations are prohibited, these two concessions will leave matters pretty much where they are, especially when it is considered that the additional members of the Councils will be nominated by Government and not elected by the

people. The public in this country do not at all approve of Lord Cross's Bill. They want a Bill like that drafted by Mr. Bradlaugh."

38. The same paper suggests in connection with the Railways Bill now before the Viceregal Council that the number and the speed of the trains on Indian railway

The Railways Bill.

lines should be increased so as to suit the convenience of the public. The number of trains running daily on the East Indian Railway line is very small, being 50 at the most, and the number of trains to and from the Howrah station daily is smaller still. As a consequence, people living in the vicinity of Calcutta, say at Hooghly, who have to come to Calcutta daily on business, often find it more convenient to hire lodgings in Calcutta than to come to the city in a passenger train every day. The number of trains to and from the Howrah station should, therefore, be increased, and the time for their running should be so fixed as to suit the convenience of the public. By increasing the number of trains on the railway lines and by reducing the rate of fare for railway travelling the Company can indefinitely increase their passenger traffic and make larger profits.

SAWAYA,
Feb. 29th, 1890.

39. The *Sanjivani*, of the 1st March, is not at all satisfied with Lord Cross's Indian Councils Bill. It is true the Bill provides for an increase in the number

Lord Cross's Indian Councils Bill.

of additional members of the Councils, but it does not give effect to Lord Dufferin's recommendation for the introduction of the elective principle in the selection of such members. The Bill, it is feared, will, if passed, do more harm than good. For, if it is passed, Government will have increased facilities for making laws detrimental to the interests of the people by selecting members who would give it their full support, and it will at the same time, be able to justify its acts by saying that they have been sanctioned by men of leading among the people themselves. Thus the blame for anything injurious to the interests of the people done in the Councils will rest with the people themselves.

SANJIVANI
Mar. 1st, 1890.

Another injury that will be done by the Bill, if passed, is that it will prevent the passing of Mr. Bradlaugh's Bill. And who can say that Lord Cross has not introduced his own Bill with this object?

40. The *Bangabasi*, of the 1st March, says that Lord Cross's Indian Councils Bill will confer no real privileges on the people of India. The English are not

Lord Cross's Indian Councils Bill.

a people to be coaxed into giving inconvenient rights and privileges to Indians. The Bill is only a sop thrown to Indians to put a stop to their present agitation, and they should not expect great things from it.

BANGABASI,
Mar. 1st, 1890.

41. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 2nd March, says that the Indian Railways Bill will be passed in the month of March and will come into force on

The Indian Railway's Bill.

the 1st of April. The reason for this haste will be clear when it is considered that the British Empire in India itself exists for the promotion of British commerce and that railway extension in India is necessary in the interest of that commerce. Such is the anxiety of Government to serve the Railway Companies that it has in certain matters empowered Magistrates to take cognizance of cases of a civil nature in which those Companies may find themselves engaged (Chapter III).

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Mar. 2nd, 1890.

42. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 2nd March, says that the people of India will be gainers if either of the Bills drafted by Mr. Bradlaugh and Lord Cross is passed.

Lord Cross's Bill.

Lord Cross's Bill provides for the discussion of the budget, and so, if it is passed and the budget is allowed to be discussed in the Council, some restraint will be put on the improper expenditure of public money by Government. But there is no knowing whether Lord Cross's Bill will pass or not.

DACCA PRAKASH
Mar. 2nd, 1890.

If it is passed, then the people of India will surely have good reason to be thankful to his Lordship.

BANGALA EXCHANGE
GAZETTE,
Mar. 3rd, 1890.

43. The *Bangala Exchange Gazette*, of the 3rd March, says that the Succession Certificate Act will be a great hardship to middle-class people, for under

section 4 of that Act one must prove one's succession to the satisfaction of a Civil Court, and procure a certificate of such succession before he can get a decree on any bonds left by the deceased. And it is not yet known whether Munsifs and Sub-Judges have been empowered to grant such certificates, though the Local Governments have been authorized by the law to invest these officials with this power. This new law will increase litigation and with it the revenue of Government, so it is idle to suppose that Government will do anything to amend it. The native members of the Legislative Council are indifferent in the matter, for the Act will not inconvenience them in any way. And the representations of the press will no doubt share the fate they met with in the matter of the Tenancy Act and on the question of the reduction of court-fees.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
Mar. 3rd, 1890.

44. The *Navavibhakar Sadharani*, of the 3rd March, says that it is clear that Lord Cross has introduced his Indian Councils Bill with a view of suppressing Mr. Bradlaugh's Bill for the reconstitution of those Councils. It

Lord Cross's Indian Councils Bill.

is also easy to see that the reason why he has introduced the Bill in the House of Lords instead of allowing it to be introduced in the House of Commons is that Mr. Bradlaugh and his friends may not alter it in its passage through the latter House.

It is not easy to see what need there was of framing a Bill of this kind. The Bill will not benefit the country in the least, but it will enable Government to fully attain the object it has in view, namely, governing the people despotically in the name of the people themselves. Government is mistaken if it thinks, as some suppose it does, of stopping the agitation of the Congressists by this Bill. It is true that Sir T. Madhava Rao, the leader of the Congress in Southern India, has advised the Congressists to be satisfied with the proposed concession. But no Congressist, nay, no Indian of any class, will be satisfied with Lord Cross's Bill. It is better that the Indian Councils should remain as they are than that they should be reconstituted in accordance with a half measure like that of Lord Cross.

It is hard to understand why Government is so afraid of introducing the elective system in the selection of members for the Legislative Councils. The elective system has, by its own admission, borne excellent fruit in those municipalities in which it has been introduced in a complete form. Again, experience has shown that the results of election are much the same as those of nomination. Every one of the existing 48 elected Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta would have been nominated by Government under the nomination system, with the exception, perhaps, of Baboo Surendranath Banerji. Again, if the elective system had been in force in regard to the Legislative Councils, none but the present nominated Hindu and Mussulman members of the Bengal Council would probably have been elected. For who but such learned and intelligent men as Dr. Rashbehari Ghose and Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar should be selected from among Hindus to discuss legislative measures, and who but a man of such high birth as Prince Furrokh Shah and a man of such ability and acquirements as Abdool Jubbur should be selected from among Mussulmans for the same purpose? It is not therefore easy to see why Government is so afraid of introducing the elective system in the Legislative Councils, and why native leaders go into raptures over it.

It was quite a problem with Lord Dufferin how elections could be made for the Legislative Councils. But an election machinery can be easily made if one man is taken from every District Board

to form a Board for the purpose of electing members for the local Legislative Council.

The adoption by Lord Cross, in deference to the wishes of the members of the India Council, of Lord Lansdowne's narrow scheme formed immediately after arrival in this country, and when he had acquired no experience of Indian affairs in preference to the more liberal scheme submitted by Lord Dufferin after full four years' administration of the country shews how greatly India is being injured by the India Council. It was because Lord Cross had misgivings about his action in this matter that he hesitated to lay before the House of Lords the views of former Viceroy on the reconstitution of the Indian Legislative Councils. It is hoped that the House will draw the proper inference from this reluctance of His Lordship.

45. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 4th March, has the following on the Indian Railways Bill:—

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Mar. 4th, 1890.

The Indian Railways Bill.

The new Bill provides for water-closets in all female carriages. But it is also desirable that it should provide for the same in all carriages for males and at least in the intermediate class carriages. As respectable gentlemen often travel in intermediate class carriages, these latter should, like the first and second class carriages, be provided with bath-rooms. Water-closets are attached to all the carriages on the Madras lines.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

46. The *Surabhi-o-Pataká*, of the 27th February, says that the Gilgit Note probably contains very damaging matter, or Sir John Gorst would not be so unwilling to lay it before the House of Commons.

The Gilgit Note in the House of Commons.

SURABHI-O-PATAKA,
Feb. 27th, 1890.

When Lord Lansdowne characterised the *Amrita Bazar Patrika's* version of the note as erroneous, he had not the courage to publish the original, and even now Sir John Gorst cannot muster courage to do the same. What should the public infer from all this?

47. The same paper says that anarchy reigns in Cashmere under British occupation. Some people have been enriched only in order that they may laud the present administration.

Cashmere.

Those who used to get small salaries under the Maharaja have now begun to grow rich simply by currying favour with the Resident and the treacherous Amar Sing. As a consequence, the country is becoming impoverished day after day. The propriety of enforcing the Arms Act in Cashmere is being discussed. If the Act is really enforced there, then the doubts which still exist about the annexation of that State will be set at rest. But it does not seem to be at all likely that the warlike Dogras will quietly agree to part with their arms.

SURABHI-O-PATAKA.

48. The *Samaya*, of the 28th February, says that the public in this country will be justified in inferring from Sir John Gorst's refusal to produce the Gilgit Note in the House of Commons that the

The Gilgit Note in the House of Commons.

SAMAYA,
Feb. 28th, 1890.

letter which was published in the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, purporting to be the Gilgit Note, was an authentic document, not a forgery, as was stated by the Viceroy. Perhaps the original note contains even more damaging admissions than those contained in the *Amrita Bazar's* letter, and hence the unwillingness of Sir John to lay the original before the House.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

49. The *Bharat Mitra*, of the 27th February, says that the recent mock fight in the Diamond Harbour sub-division will no doubt produce a wholesome effect on the army, but it has awakened in

The recent mock fight in the Diamond Harbour sub-division.

BHARAT MITRA,
Feb. 27th 1890.

the minds of the villagers the fear that the rulers may be making ready

against some imminent danger in the shape of a Russian invasion. Government would do well to disabuse them on this subject by spreading correct information among them.

SULABH SAMACHAR-O-
KUSHDAHA,
Feb. 28th, 1890.

50. The *Sulabh Samachar-o-Kushdaha*, of the 28th February, says that a report is current that the proprietors of the *Englishman* newspaper will start a Bengali newspaper, which will be an organ of the Government. There is nothing to object to in this project; but if the paper is conducted in the narrow and illiberal spirit in which the *Englishman* itself is conducted, it will certainly be prejudicial to the interests of both the rulers and the ruled. The mass of the people being ignorant of the English tongue, have at present no opportunity of knowing what is said in the English paper, and if the Bengali paper is conducted in the same way as the English paper, Government will very probably lose their confidence. It is to be hoped, however, that the proposed newspaper will aim at maintaining the confidence which now exists between the Government and the people.

The new Bengali newspaper.

SULABH SAMACHAR-O-
KUSHDAHA.

51. The same paper says, in reference to the agricultural show lately held at Khulna, that it is at a loss to make out the real object of the District Board in spending two thousand rupees on it. The writer has full sympathy with the object of such shows, considering that that object is only to diffuse among the people a knowledge of the improved methods of agriculture and manufacture obtaining in foreign countries.

The agricultural show at Khulna.

But how far that object was forwarded by the means adopted in the case of the Khulna show is open to question.

So far as could be seen, the show was thronged by men of fashion, whereas it should have been principally attended by the agricultural and manufacturing people of the district. The latter are the only sections of the community who can derive most benefit from an exhibition of this kind. Perhaps the absence of those for whom mainly the show was intended was due to the fact of the site selected for it not having been within easy reach of them.

The next point for notice is that the show exhibited very few improved agricultural and manufacturing tools and implements, and almost no new objects calculated to awaken in the minds of the agriculturists and manufacturers of the district the desire to improve their respective arts. It is hard to see what good to the country can be expected from exhibiting a few hand-made quilts and a few imitation plants in wool.

Lastly, the Board was very wrong to spend a large amount on amusements. Some innocent amusements are no doubt required for drawing low-class people to these shows, but amusement should not be made their main object.

SUDHAKAR,
Feb. 28th, 1890.

52. The *Sudhakar*, of the 28th February, says, in reference to the Durbhunga temple affair, that at first sight it may appear as if the Mahomedans had done this deed of sacrilege from a motive of jealousy. That this was not the case, however, is clearly admitted even by such an anti-Moslem paper as the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*. It appears that the ill-feeling between Hindus and Mussulmans is growing with their education. This shows that the education they are receiving is not sound. Ten years ago the jealousy of the present time was a thing quite unknown between the two races. The Hindu community should note that the Mahomedans constitute a considerable portion of the population of India, and that dissensions between the two communities will lead to the ruin of both. The Hindus and the Mahomedans will now do well to remember the story of the dying man and the bundle of sticks, and its moral that union is strength. That this sacrilegious affair at Durbhunga is a matter entirely between the

Hindus and Mussulmans and the
Durbhunga affair.

people and the Government is clearly proved by the proceedings of the several meetings that have been held in different parts of the country in this connection.

53. The same paper says that the *Dainik*, as the organ of bigoted Hinduism, has the following in regard to the quarrel between Hindus and Mussulmans in Kushtea (see Report on Native Papers for the week ending the 1st March, paragraph 55):—

The Hindu in the cow-killing question.

SUDHAKAR,
Feb. 28th, 1890.

"A correspondent writes to the *Sudhakar*, an organ of the Mussulmans, to say that the Hindus of Kushtea have taken offence at the conduct of the Mussulmans in slaughtering a cow in a Hindu village. And the Hindu pleaders of the local bar have in retaliation come to a resolution not to take up the cases of those Mussulmans who knowingly or otherwise wounded the feelings of the Hindus by taking part in the ceremony."

Views like these no doubt well become the organ of bigoted Hindus. If the Musulmans are not to slaughter cows in a village where there may be Hindu residents, the statement amounts to saying that the Musulmans of India are to give up eating the flesh of cows, for there is not a single town or village in India in which there are not both Hindu and Musulman residents. It is time that the Hindus ceased to show such narrowness of mind, or the consequence would be disastrous. Though preceding generations of Hindus were more bigoted than the present generation of Hindu youths, they showed greater religious toleration than the latter in regard to Mussulman customs and observances. It is a wonder that the present Hindus do not feel ashamed of their thoughtless conduct.

54. The *Pratikar*, of the 28th February, reports that a man named Gopi, a pressman, having come to the hospital for some affection in one of his eyes was sent by the doctor with a prescription to the compounder. The compounder by mistake poured nitric acid into his eye and thus destroyed it completely. Now, who is to be responsible for this act of carelessness on the part of the compounder?

The doctor and compounder of the hospital at Berhampore.

PRATIKAR,
Feb. 28th, 1890.

The conduct of the doctor in this connection was most reprehensible. The relatives of Gopi seeing him in great pain remonstrated with the compounder, and the doctor thereupon became very angry and told them to seek the aid of the law if they liked.

55. The same paper hears that the *Englishman* newspaper is going to appear in a Bengali garb, and that advertisements to that effect have also appeared in Calcutta. As it is, the paper has made the whole country uneasy, and now it will not spare even the day-labourer the vexation of knowing its views. The paper, which will be called the *Suprabhat* will contain what is given in the *Englishman* itself, but in a new dress. Why is the *Pioneer* behindhand in issuing a Hindi edition of itself?

The Bengali edition of the *Englishman* newspaper.

PRATIKAR.

56. The *Bangabasi*, of the 1st March, says that, in spite of the degeneracy of the Indian people, two things have lately happened which tell their well-wishers not to despair about them. The first thing has happened in Durbhunga and the second in Jessore. It is reassuring to find that the religious susceptibilities of the people of Behar have not yet been rendered quite callous, though all the other virtues they possessed are gone. Temples have, no doubt, been destroyed from the beginning of creation, some by the hand of Time, and some by other natural agents, and Hindus have been grieved when their temples have been destroyed. But when a temple is destroyed by wicked men from wicked motives they are cut to the quick. That the Hindus of Behar have life enough yet left in them to feel

The moral of the Durbhunga and Jessore affairs.

BANGABASI,
Mar. 1st, 1890.

the magnitude of the sacrilege perpetrated on their religion is what still inspires in the mind some hope for them.

This is what has happened in the west, and in the east thousands of the poor, helpless, half-starved ryots of Jhenidah and Magura have resolved not to grow indigo for the European indigo-planters. They will silently submit to any and every oppression, but they will not sow indigo for the planters. This too is also not a thing to be made light of. It has a lesson for those who can only talk, for it shows them the difference between words and action. There are in this firm stand made by these poor hungry cultivators of Jessore what cannot be found in the speeches and resolutions of the go-ahead, speech-loving, speech-making Baboos.

In the midst of the despair with which the spectacle of the go-ahead Baboo fills the mind, there is certainly a gleam of hope in the simultaneous occurrence of two incidents, both of which show that the people of this country have yet some vitality left in them.

SANJIVANI,
Mar. 1st, 1890.

57. The *Sanjivani*, of the 1st March, referring to the Bengali newspaper which the proprietors of the *Englishman* newspaper intend to start, says that the resources at the disposal of the projectors will not frighten the editors of the native papers. It remains, however, to be known whether the paper is to receive any aid from Government. It is also important to learn what traitor to his country will consent to edit the paper for love of money. Lastly, who will read the paper? It is to be hoped that the tea and indigo-planters will not compel their native subordinates to purchase the paper, and that Government will not take the paper for its offices.

SANJIVANI.

58. Referring to the telegraphic account of the version of the Chief Justice's trial of the *Pioneer*-Hearsey libel case, sent to the *Pioneer* by its Calcutta correspondent, the same paper says that, if such remarks had appeared in a native paper, its editor would undoubtedly have been indicted on a charge of contempt of court. But the case is different with the *Pioneer*, which is a semi-official paper. It is also owing, no doubt, to its connection with Government, that the *Pioneer* can publish with impunity official secrets in the face of the Official Secrets Act.

SANJIVANI.

59. With regard to the non-appointment of Baboo Bhuban Mohan Banerji, an extra assistant in the Paper Currency Office, to a permanent post which lately fell vacant in that office, on the ground of his not undertaking to work during the Durga Pujah holidays, the same paper says that, considering that Baboo Bhuban Mohan has discharged his duties efficiently during the period he has served Government, the authorities would have done well to depart once for all, in this case, from the new rule of not appointing any one in the Currency Office who does not consent to work during the Durga Pujah vacation. Baboo Bhuban Mohan has petitioned the Viceroy for a Government appointment, no matter whether it be the appointment in the Currency Office which has been refused to him, or some other appointment, and it is hoped that Lord Lansdowne will accede to his very reasonable prayer.

SANJIVANI.

60. A correspondent writing to the same paper from Khulna says that the money raised for the agricultural show lately held there was mainly expended in theatrical and other amusements in which performances were given by prostitutes, and that the Government school was closed on the 11th and 12th February, the dates on which the performances were given. The school authorities showed bad taste in closing the school on those two dates, thereby encouraging, in a manner, the boys to witness the immoral performances.

The correspondent also says that one of the Deputy Magistrates wanted to admit gratis to the place of amusement his servant and cook, simply because they were his men, and that, being opposed by a teacher of the school who was at the gate, he exchanged high words with him.

The correspondent is glad to hear that it is proposed to hold the show every year, but, he warns the projectors against the commission of scandals similar to those of the present year. The show will otherwise do more harm than good.

The Lady Dufferin movement.

61. The same paper has the following on the working of the Lady Dufferin Zenana Hospital:—

SANJIVANI.
Mar. 1st, 1890.

No improvement in the internal working of the hospital is observable from the monthly returns supplied of the number of patients who daily came for advice during the years 1888 and 1889. The following table gives the average daily attendance during eleven months of the years 1888 and 1889 respectively:—

				Average of daily attendance.	
				1888.	1889.
January	...	...	...	133	103
February	...	...	...	126	92
March	...	...	...	153	74
April	...	...	...	145	56
May	...	...	...	136	84
June	...	...	...	163	100
July	...	...	...	44	73
August	...	...	...	41	61
September	...	...	...	66	68
October	...	...	...	68	53
November	...	...	...	65	64

This shows that the average daily attendance during 1888 was 103, and in 1889 only 75. The Committee accounts for this decrease by saying that from July 1889 boys above seven years of age were not admitted to the hospital. This means that boys above 7 years made up about 50 per cent. of the daily attendance—a thing very hard to believe. This explanation of the Committee cannot also be accepted as satisfactory, unless it is known that they consulted the register in coming to this conclusion. But assuming for the sake of argument that this statement of the Committee is correct, the percentage of attendance of boys below seven years must be known before the exact number of women and girls who came for advice can be ascertained. And how many of these last were *pardanashin* women will be yet another point for enquiry. But the Committee is silent on this point.

It is enough that the Committee have sung their own praise. During the first-half of 1888, nearly half the daily attendance consisted of boys above seven years of age, and yet the Committee was ignorant of the fact. And it is not stated whether their attention was attracted to it in the course of any investigation made by themselves or by somebody else. It is no wonder that such a painstaking Committee will describe deterioration as improvement.

As for the great care with which the Committee spends the funds, it may be noted that the two dispensaries at Bhagulpore have ceased to receive any aid from them on the ground of a falling off in the Committee's receipt, whilst Rs. 600 is annually placed in the hands of Mrs. Foggo for no other purpose than that of training sick-nurses. Now a woman can qualify herself as a nurse and also as a midwife in a year at the Eden Hospital, whilst if she joins the Lady Dufferin Zenana Hospital to qualify herself as a sick-nurse only, she must spend two years there almost to no purpose, because the lady doctors there being ignorant of the Bengali language are unable to teach the subjects thoroughly, and then come to the Eden Hospital to qualify

herself in midwifery. These difficulties have deterred all but destitute or foolish women from joining the Lady Dufferin Zenana Hospital. And although Christians are now admitted, the hospital can boast of two students only, one of whom is a native Christian. Mrs. Foggo stated in last year's report that she had two respectable native women as pupils. Now the statements of a Committee who can take dancing girls in this country for respectable women should be accepted with care. It is thus seen that this Rs. 600 has been placed in Mrs. Foggo's hands not because the community will derive any real benefit from it, but because Mrs. Foggo asked the Committee to do so. The Committee has, in fact, made itself a puppet in the hands of Mrs. Foggo, and Mrs. Foggo being quite ignorant of the manners and customs of the people, it is no wonder that the internal working of this movement is assuming the nature of a farce. And it is the conviction of the organisers of the Fund that these zenana hospitals cannot be placed in the charge of any but such lady doctors. And so Dr. Hunter wrote in the August number of the *Contemporary Review* as follows:—

"But for many years to come the supply of the directing staff of lady doctors must be obtained from England."

Why for many years only? If one of the objects of the movement be what Dr. Hunter states it to be, the necessity for bringing out lady doctors from England will never disappear. The Doctor says:—

"It clearly showed that if medical aid is to be brought within reach of the women of India, it must be brought by female practitioners. It indicated—less clearly—that the task of bringing that aid will in all probability open up a new and important branch of the English medical profession. This two-fold aspect of the Marchioness of Dufferin's work, its philanthropic aspect to India, and its practical aspect to the increasing number of women who are seeking to enter the medical profession in England, gives the movement a very immediate interest. As a charity it is one of the most magnificent enterprises of benevolence ever projected by a woman's brain. As an outlet for qualified lady doctors, it suggests a solution of the problem as to how to freely throw open the British medical profession to the female sex, without unduly intensifying the hard struggle for life, which is already the lot of nine-tenths of the male practitioners in this country."

It will thus be seen that the organisers of the movement are clearly proving by their words and actions that the suspicion of the people of this country that the movement has been set on foot in order to find employment for the lady doctors of England is not after all wholly groundless.

GRAMVASI,
Mar. 1st, 1890.

62. The *Grámvásí*, of the 1st March, has learnt that a Bengali daily called the *Suprabhát* will be shortly issued from the *Englishman* press. The *Englishman* itself is a great nuisance to the people of Bengal, and the new paper is sure to be perfectly intolerable to them.

A Bengali daily from the *Englishman* Press.

GRAMVASI.

63. The same paper refers to the question as to who should succeed Sir Steuart Bayley, and says that Bengal has had few Lieutenant-Governors like Sir Steuart Bayley, and will probably have very few like him in future.

A successor to Sir Steuart Bayley.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Mar. 2nd, 1890.

64. The *Dainik-o-Samáchár Chandriká*, of the 2nd March, complains of delay in the publication of the Bengal Library Catalogue of Books for the quarter ending June 1889. The catalogue in question has been published quite recently—eight months after the proper time for its publication. Why so much delay when there is a highly-paid officer for doing only this work of cataloguing?

The Bengal Library Catalogue of Books.

NAVAVIBHAKA
SADHARANI,
Mar. 3rd, 1890.

65. The *Navavibhakar Sádharaní*, of the 3rd March, says that it is not easy to see what object the proprietors of the *Englishman* newspaper have in view in bringing out their Bengali daily, the *Suprabhát*. If they really desire, as some suppose they do, to advocate the cause of Government, they will not succeed. For the natives, who are not convinced by the advocacy of the *Englishman* itself, will not be convinced by the advocacy of the *Suprabhát*. The first issue of the paper clearly shows that it has appeared with the view of opposing Bengali interests. If the Bengalis have any sense of self-respect they will not patronise this paper. All the articles in that paper have about them the unmistakable odour of the *Englishman*, and its language too has a decidedly English smell.

The *Suprabhát* newspaper.

66. The *Dainik-o-Samáchar Chandriká*, of the 5th March, says that the indigo oppression in Jessore reflects discredit upon the local officers. The indigo-planters are instituting false suits against the ryots, and the Magistrate, Mr. Luson, is doing justice in some of these cases and injustice in others. The police is said to be helping the planters in oppressing the ryots. The great friend of the ryots, Baboo Kedarnath Ghosh, is constantly getting into trouble. He has even been charged with the theft of pulses. All this is said to be owing to the *zulm* of the planters. It will be a matter of deep regret if the proceedings of these planters have the effect of tarnishing the reputation of the local officers.

Indigo oppression in Jessore.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Mar. 5th, 1890.

67. The same paper says that cloth manufacture is still in its infancy in India. India has only 80 cotton mills with 1,900,000 spindles, 16,000 loom and 61,000 labourers against 3,000 mills in England with 50,000,000 spindles, 525,000 looms and 500,000 labourers. Still the English mill-owners, who have been spoiled by the over-indulgence of Government, are bent upon stifling this infant industry, because Indian yarn finds greater favour in the markets of China and Japan than English yarn. Government has introduced the Bill to amend the Indian Factories Act with the view of satisfying these English mill-owners who cannot sell good yarn so cheap as the Indian mill-owners. The Bill is but the thin end of the wedge. It now increases the cost of cloth manufacture in India by limiting the hours of work only in regard to women and children, but it is certain that this provision will be extended in time to male labourers too.

English versus Indian cloth mills.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA.

Some Englishmen call for the appointment of Government Inspectors to see that Indian hanks are not of short length. The existing Indian law for the prevention of short lengths is not less stringent than the existing English law on the same subject, and it is therefore only fair that before State Inspectors are appointed to inspect the hanks of the Indian mills, such Inspectors should be appointed in England for a similar purpose.

There can be no doubt that an attempt will be made to satisfy the whole desire of the English mill-owners, and it is equally certain that the Bradlaughs and the Digbys, who are so much trusted by the Baboos, will help in that attempt.

68. The same paper finds fault with the conduct of the Mukhtarship examination this year. In the first place, the candidates were inconvenienced by the holding of the examination five or six days before the date originally fixed for it. In the second place, one-third of the entire number of questions were set from the Contract Act, and no questions were set from the five Regulations and the Registration Act. This was very bad, because, as 22 different Acts and Regulations have to be read for the examination, and as only 24 questions in all are set, not more than one question ought to be set from each of the Acts and Regulations. There can be

The last Mukhtarship Examination.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA.

no doubt that the result of the examination will be bad in consequence of all this irregularity in conducting it.

URIYA PAPERS.

SAMVADVAHIKA,
Feb. 13th, 1890.

69. The *Samvadvāhikā*, of the 13th February, highly approves of the sound policy of His Excellency the Governor-General of India in the matter of the adoption of a uniform system of weights and measures in the Bengal and Madras Presidencies.

Weights and measures.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
Feb. 12th, 1890.

70. The *Uriya and Navasamvād*, of the 12th February, draws the attention of the Educational authorities to the prayer of the master of the upper primary school at Nulipur, in the sub-division of Jajpur, who writes in this paper that he has not received his pay for eight months. This, if true, is discreditable to the Education Department.

A school-master in Orissa not paid for eight months.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD.

71. The same paper hears that the Director of Public Instruction has expressed his opinion to the effect that the Superintendents of the Lower Primary Scholarship Examinations shall receive no remuneration. But the system of paying these Superintendents has been in force in the Balasore district for seven or eight years, and it would be now unfair to refuse the remuneration. The writer, therefore, asks the Director, the Inspector, and the Chairman of the District Board, to reconsider the question, and to pass orders for the restoration of the paying system.

The question of paying remuneration to the Superintendents of the Lower Primary Scholarship Examinations in Orissa.

DIPAKA,
Feb. 15th, 1890.

72. The editor of the *Dipaka*, of the 15th February, regrets to learn that some erroneous questions on geometry and mensuration were put to the candidates for the last vernacular scholarship examination held in the Cuttack district. The writer does not know whether the mistakes were committed by the examiners who framed the questions or by the press which printed them. But the examiners and the Joint-Inspector of Schools should take due notice of the matter, so that no injustice may be done to the examinees in consequence of the errors.

The Vernacular Scholarship Examination in the Cuttack district.

ASSAM PAPERS.

PARIDARSHAK,
Feb. 24th, 1890.

73. The *Paridarshak*, of the 24th February, says that the Deputy Commissioner has ordered a fine of Rs. 5 and a process fee of Rs. 2-4 to be paid for every estate in arrear for two instalments. And so 4,000 estates being in arrear, the sum realised from fines alone will amount to Rs. 29,000, and the landlords will have to incur other expenses in paying arrear revenue. Considering also that agriculture is the chief occupation of the people of Sylhet, and that their suffering from scarcity during the last two or three years has not been quite alleviated by the comparatively good harvest of the present year, the Deputy Commissioner should follow the example set by Mr. Ward of not putting up estates to auction for non-payment of revenue in a season of scarcity. The Chief Commissioner also is requested to check the whims of the officials in imposing exorbitant fines, thus violating the spirit of the Government order under which Sylhet has been exempted from the operation of the hard sunset law of Bengal.

Revenue sales in Sylhet.

PARIDARSHAK.

74. The same paper says that the Chief Commissioner has refused to consider the petition presented to him against the oppressions of the survey officers, and that he has also returned for submission through

Petitions to the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

the Deputy Commissioner a petition of the ryots praying that their estates may not be put up to sale for arrears of revenue, and also praying for a postponement of the sales pending his final decision in the matter. It is to be hoped that the Deputy Commissioner will forward the petition with a kind word or two in favour of these poor men.

75. The same paper says that boards have been established for supplying defaulting permanently-settled estates with notices demanding payment of arrears of

Estates on wrong boards.

revenue. These boards have been placed in charge of local schoolmasters, pound-keepers, and postmasters, and two inspectors have been appointed for their supervision. The number of defaulting estates is very large this year also. An irregularity has been noticed in the working of the boards. Estates which should come under one board have in several instances been found included in a board in a wrong district.

76. The same paper says that a kind of small-pox has made its appearance in parts of Lanta, and if means are not adopted to check its progress, it may assume

Small-pox in Lanta.

an epidemic form.

77. The same paper says that Baboo Ishan Chandra Patranabis, Extra Assistant Commissioner, who had been deputed to get provisions for the troops engaged in the

Mr. Daly and the Chin-Lushai Expedition.

Chin-Lushai Expedition, has returned consequent on the Lushais making submission to the British. The Lushais have also liberated the prisoners they took at Chittagong. Only Mr. Daly is yet killing them for making a reputation for himself and is thus incurring unnecessary expenditure.

78. A correspondent of the same paper makes the following complaints

The upper primary school at Fechugunge in Sylhet.

in regard to the upper primary school at Fechugunge in Sylhet:—

- (1) Without adequate aid the condition of the school has become deplorable.
- (2) The head-master performs his duties carelessly and perfunctorily.
- (3) The unnecessary removal of the second teacher, Baboo Hara Krishna Chakravarti, to whom the school owes much, by the Deputy Inspector of Schools has been a great loss to the school, and the Deputy Inspector would act wisely in reinstating him in his former position.

In conclusion, the correspondent calls upon the well-to-do gentlemen of the place to do their best to improve the condition of the school.

79. Continuing its articles on the reformation of the Civil Courts of Assam (see Reports on Native Papers for weeks ending the 8th and 22nd February,

Civil justice in Assam.

paragraphs 55 and 53, respectively), the same paper says that the costliness of civil justice in Assam arises principally from the whimsical conduct of the Native Judicial Officers. The proceedings of Mr. Ghosh of Moulvie Bazar in connection with the assessment of the income-tax, and of Baboo Jagadbandhu of Sunamgunge in reference to the recovery of arrears of revenue, furnish illustrations of this. It is said that the fine of Rs. 7-4 imposed on each estate for non-payment of Government revenue has been fixed at the instance of Baboo Jagadbandhu. But it must be said to the credit of the really wise and educated men in the service that the above charge cannot be made against them. The others care little for the comfort or convenience of the people. All that they care for is to keep their own records faultless. And it is a wonder that these records never attract the notice of the superior officers. It is for the Judge, at all events, to see whether his subordinates

PARIDARSHAK.
Feb. 24th, 1890

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consult the comfort and convenience of the people. It is true the Judge now and then supervises, but the object and the result of his supervision are unknown. At present the cost incurred on account of witnesses generally exceeds the court fees and lawyer's fees put together. Though the courts are allowed great discretion in these matters, still the authorities should see that this power is not abused to the detriment of the people's interests.

The writer concludes by drawing attention to the corruption of the ministerial officers in particular. It is desirable that honest and educated men should be employed in the higher posts of this service. The Nazirat is a dreadful place for the litigants. For they are put to very great trouble here. The improvement that can be effected in this department of a law court by appointing honest and educated men is well illustrated by the case of Baboo Sarat Chandra Dhar, of Sylhet, than whom no more honest and conscientious man can be found, and whose removal from his present post is deeply regretted.

PARIDARSHAK,
Feb. 24th, 1890.

80. The same paper says that, owing to the Deputy Commissioner being frequently absent from Sylhet, short-term prisoners are debarred from reaping the

Short-term prisoners in Sylhet. advantage of section 407 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, for their terms of imprisonment are served out before their appeals are even laid before that official. To remove this grievance, a Magistrate should be kept at Sylhet with power to hear appeals under section 407.

PARIDARSHAK.

81. Referring to the attempts that are being made by a non-Assamese gentleman to secure the post of Nazir in the Judge's Court, the same paper says that Sir Charles Elliott and Mr. Johnson both did their

Employment of Bengalis in the Assam public service.

best in the past to protect the interests of the Assamese by giving them posts of all degrees of responsibility in the service of the Assam Government, and hopes that Mr. Johnson will still stick to the same principle in filling up vacancies, and try to give effect as completely as he can to the resolution passed by Sir Charles in this connection. The Bengal Government is looking after the interests of its Behari subjects by passing resolutions excluding Bengalis from service in Behar. And the Assam Government should do the same service to its own subjects. It is due entirely to Mr. Johnson that a few Assamese are seen in the higher posts in Assam. The evil done by appointing a Bengali to a post in Assam is not very great. But the evil assumes a serious magnitude when the officer so appointed becomes, in course of time, head of the office in which he is employed and fills the whole office with his own men. Besides, there is no necessity of giving Bengalis any posts in Assam, seeing that the Assamese who have been already appointed are doing their duties quite creditably.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,
Bengali Translator.

The 8th March 1890.